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**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS**

1. (currently amended) Method for constructing a digital talking book from text data and audio data, said method comprising the steps of:
  - (a) accessing a first synchronization file that identifies a plurality of synchronizable elements of the text data;
  - (b) accessing a second synchronization file that identifies a plurality of time points of the audio data, wherein said plurality of synchronizable elements of the text data are produced independently of said plurality of time points of the audio data; and
  - (c) building links between said identified synchronizable elements of the text data with said identified time points of the audio data.
2. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
  - (d) inserting a graphical representation for each of said identified synchronizable elements of the text data.
3. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
  - (d) inserting a graphical representation for each of said identified time points of the audio data.
4. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein said graphical representation indicates whether its associated synchronizable element is synchronized.
5. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
  - (d) displaying both of said identified synchronizable elements of the text data and said time points of the audio data on a display.

09/878,032

6. (original) The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of:  
(e) clicking on one of said synchronizable elements on said display to play said linked associated audio data.
7. (original) The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of:  
(e) clicking on one of said synchronizable elements on said display to display said linked associated text data as being highlighted.
8. (original) The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of:  
(e) performing an editing function to adjust the synchronization between said identified synchronizable elements of the text data with said identified time points of the audio data.
9. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein said editing function comprises breaking a link.
10. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein said editing function comprises adding a link.
11. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein said editing function comprises grouping a link.
12. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein said editing function comprises adjusting a time point.
13. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein said editing function comprises creating a time point.

09/878,032

14. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein said editing function comprises deleting a time point.

15. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein said editing function comprises creating and inserting a synchronizable element.

16. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein said editing function comprises deleting a synchronizable element.

17. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a plurality of instructions, the plurality of instructions including instructions which, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform the steps comprising of:

(a) accessing a first synchronization file that identifies a plurality of synchronizable elements of the text data;

(b) accessing a second synchronization file that identifies a plurality of time points of the audio data, wherein said plurality of synchronizable elements of the text data are produced independently of said plurality of time points of the audio data; and

(c) building links between said identified synchronizable elements of the text data with said identified time points of the audio data.

18. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 17, further comprising the step of:

(d) inserting a graphical representation for each of said identified synchronizable elements of the text data.

19. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 17, further comprising the step of:

(d) inserting a graphical representation for each of said identified time points of the audio data.

09/878,032

20. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 18, wherein said graphical representation indicates whether its associated synchronizable element is synchronized.

21. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 18, further comprising the step of:

(d) displaying both of said identified synchronizable elements of the text data and said time points of the audio data on a display.

22. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 21, further comprising the step of:

(e) clicking on one of said synchronizable elements on said display to play said linked associated audio data.

23. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 21, further comprising the step of:

(e) clicking on one of said synchronizable elements on said display to display said linked associated text data as being highlighted.

24. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 21, further comprising the step of:

(e) performing an editing function to adjust the synchronization between said identified synchronizable elements of the text data with said identified time points of the audio data.

25. (currently amended) Apparatus for constructing a digital talking book from text data and audio data, said apparatus comprising:

means for accessing a first synchronization file that identifies a plurality of synchronizable elements of the text data and for accessing a second synchronization file that identifies a plurality of time points of the audio data, wherein said plurality of

09/878,032

synchronizable elements of the text data are produced independently of said plurality of time points of the audio data; and

means for building links between said identified synchronizable elements of the text data with said identified time points of the audio data.

26. (original) The apparatus of claim 25, further comprising:

means for inserting a graphical representation for each of said identified synchronizable elements of the text data.

27. (original) The apparatus of claim 25, further comprising:

means for inserting a graphical representation for each of said identified time points of the audio data.

28. (original) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein said graphical representation indicates whether its associated synchronizable element is synchronized.

29. (original) The apparatus of claim 25, further comprising:

means for displaying both of said identified synchronizable elements of the text data and said time points of the audio data on a display.

30. (original) The apparatus of claim 29, further comprising:

means for clicking on an synchronizable element on said display to play said linked associated audio data.

31. (original) The apparatus of claim 29, further comprising:

means for clicking on an synchronizable element on said display to display said linked associated text data as being highlighted.

32. (original) The apparatus of claim 29, further comprising:

means for performing an editing function to adjust the synchronization between

09/878,032

said identified synchronizable elements of the text data with said identified time points of the audio data.

33. (currently amended) A computer readable medium having stored thereon a data structure for assisting in the construction of a digital talking book from text data and audio data, said text data comprising a plurality of synchronizable elements, said audio data comprising plurality of time points, and wherein said plurality of synchronizable elements of the text data are produced independently of said plurality of time points of the audio data, said data structure comprising:

- a project metadata field;
- a project text data field; and
- a synchronizable element field.

34. (currently amended) A computer readable medium having stored thereon a data structure for assisting in the construction of a digital talking book from text data and audio data, said text data comprising a plurality of synchronizable elements, said audio data comprising plurality of time points, and wherein said plurality of synchronizable elements of the text data are produced independently of said plurality of time points of the audio data, said data structure comprising:

a data element field, wherein said data comprises at least one record element field, wherein said at least one record element field comprises:

- a identification field;
- a starttime field;
- an endtime field;
- and a type field.